THE STAGE HERE AND ABROAD

and the second

CLYDE FITCH'S NEW PLAY TO BE HEARD TO-NIGHT.

Franklin Fyles's "Besurrection" Coming Gut Soon-Plays by Maeterlinek and Mauptmann-End of Mrs. Osborn's Playhouse-Willard as "Tom Pinch." Lest we forget-to-night at the Savoy, Clara Bloodgood in Clyde Fitch's new play, "The Girl With the Green Eyes."

Usually the most hopeless theatrical period of the season-the production of Mr. Fitch's piece, though it robs us of our Christmas at home, makes this a red-letter week. Mr. Willard has settled down to his week. Mr. Willard has settled down to his repertory, and on the West Side the popping of revolvers punctuates the adventures of the Biddles—with what horror the use of that sacred name will be received in Philadelphia! Hence the premiere at the Savoy to-night rescues the week from its dull record, and at the same time it will ease the plethora of first nights next Monday.

The chances are that Mr. Franklin Fyles's version of Tolstoy's "Resurrection" will see the light here before the Tree-Morton production which Mr. Hammerstein contemplates. It cannot be denied that the Parisian dramatization failed to make money. And Mr. Hammerstein simply smiled the other night when he was asked about that \$1,500 a week offer to Mrs. Potter.

"You will excuse while I go compose a sonata." he remarked. "I am no philanthropist." Then the sound of music was heard in his studio. That sonata was being taken hot off the griddle.

Mr. David Belasco is to produce "Resurrection" for Mr. Fyles, and a costly one it will be. The date of the production and the theatre are still secrets. Mr. Charles Frohman was associated with Mr. Belasco in the deal and without making any wild guesses we may surmise that one of his theatres will be utilized. There is to be no change in this scheme even if Mr. Hammarstein imports the Paris translation.

Mr. Churton Collins protests in the National Review against the kind of criticism which "tends to make Shakespeare almost as mythical as Homer." He selects "Titus Andronicus" to expose his thesis: "First, because it comprehensively illustrates the methods employed by these iconoclasts for the attainment of their iconoclasts for the attainment of their paradoxical purposes, their indifference to evidence, to probability, to reason; secondly, because it illustrates how easily and lightly a baseless theory passes by dint of mere repetition into an article of belief; and thirdly, because an assumption of the spuriousness of this play affects very materially the important question of Shakespeare's early education and the development of his genius." All of which has the familiar pugnacious ring of this critic.

Maeterlinck's two new plays were written for Martin Harvey, and Mr. W. B. Yeats's new drama is called "Where There is Nothing," which title has a distinct flavor of lbsen. The story is a compound of revolutionary ideas and beautiful verbal music. Mr. Yeats uses a motive that once appeared in a short story, the survival of the pagan worship among purely Christian believers.
Admirers of the pure poet in Mr. Yeats's work will be interested in this play.

"Der Arme Heinrich," Gerhart Hauptmann's new five-act drama-produced at the Deutsches Theater, Berlin, Dec. 6has for its theme an idea recalling Senta's sacrifice in Wagner's "Flying Dutchman." The story is founded on an old German legend and the play is written in verse Some critics say that Hauptmann has surpassed "The Sunken Bell" in his imaginative lights. Be this as it may, the outline of the plot seems somewhat depressing. A wealthy nobleman suffers from a mysterious disease. He is told that only the sacrifice of a makien's blood can effect a cure. He finds one in the person of a poor forester's daughter. She is 15 years old and has long loved the ailing Count. He is her ideal

life. However, she will not be denied, despite the fact that he thrusts her from his presence. Later, thinking that she is dead, that her spirit summons him, he follows her to the doctor. There the fatal knife is uplifted. Suddenly the man rushes in and rescues this particularly obsessed young woman, for behold he is cured! Her love has accomplished the miracle; love is the conqueror because of her unselfishness. This is the main theme. We can easily fancy the poetic treatment of Hauptmann and the wealth of delicate details he has invented to make the romance palatable. ented to make the romance palatable It has been translated into English.

Another "Francesca da Rimini"! This ime it is by Signor Cesareo, a well-known dramatic author in Rome. His version i in five acts and in verse. That he doesn't think highly of Stephen stand by his of the same title may be gleaned by his criticism—"Dante dissolved in mucilage." think highly of Stephen Phillips's play This gentleman hath a pretty wit. When he runs across D'Annunzio and utters such epigrams something stronger than mucilage

Novelli, the most versatile, if not the most powerful, of the modern Italian actors. is playing Nerone in Rome with much success. The play is by Cossa and it idealizes the character of the artistic Emperor. We Novelli and his company in a have seen Novelli and his company in a realistic drama by Praga and will not soon forget the actor's painful assumption of

Mr. Hall Caine in arriving in England ac tually denied his resemblance to Shakepeare. But no one ever saw this alleged

Gabriele D'Annunzio has bequeathed his skull to Cornell University.

Funny things occasionally happen in English theatres. Several weeks ago at the opera house, Leicester, a lot of freshwater crayfish got away from a fairy grotto back of the dress circle. One nervous gentleman "complained that he saw large creatures moving in the passageways."
The majority of theatregeers over here wouldn't stop long to analyze what they saw after such a creepy experience.

Matinées at all the theatres to-day

There is a rumor that Manager C. B. Dillingham may take the lease of Mrs. Osborn's Playhouse. Her managerial connection with the establishment ceases Saturday night. She wishes neither condolences nor congratulations—though the latter would be to the point.

The original title of Mrs. Langtry's play -written in conjunction with J. Hartley Manners-was "Virginia." It was first heard in Manchester. On Monday at the Garrick it is called "The Crossways."

"Tom Pinch," with Mr. Willard in the title rôle, was given at the Garden Theatre last night before a rather attenuated audience-in a word, a Christmas eve audience. The assumption of the simplehearted, eccentric, lovable Tom by Mr Willard is a familiar one. He executed it last night with his accustomed dexterity it last night with his accustomed dexterity and sympathy. The play as a whole is a bore and too "talky." But it is an old favorite and somehow or other Christmastide and Dickens stories seem to fit. Even that cheery humbug Mr Pecksniff—impersonated by Bassett Roe-was a welcome friend. Mabel Roebuck, J. G. Taylor, Rose Beaudet, Ernest Stallard—the Mark The Inventor of the Mark Theology. or, Rose Beaudet, Ernest Stallard—the Mark Tapley—and A. S. Homewood, the luter Marin Chusslew were in the cast. The sisters Charity and Mercy were well done by Misses Joan Blair and Laura Linden. Altogether it was an enjoyable performance and it will be repeated at today's matinée.

"CARMEN" AT THE OPERA. Mme. Sembrich Unable to Appear Puccini's "La Boheme."

'Twas the night before Christmas and al through the house there were empty seats and yawning spaces. It was the Metropolitan Opera House and there was room to sell, but no one to buy it. The trouble was all about an outbreak of Mme. Sembrich. The opera was to have been Puccini's cheer ing sketch of life in Parisian Bohemia known as "La Bohème," and the Polish prima donna was to have impersonated once again the tuberculous rosemaker, Lucia, who was known as Mimi. On Monday night, when Mme Sembrich appeared as the queen in "Les Huguenots," she was suffering from one of those comforters which are prover bi-

one of those comforters which are proverbially associated with the memory of the most patient man in sacred history. Yesterday this ill-timed visitor had entered upon a career of pernicious activity and made it impractiable for the distinguished singer to appear in public.

"La Boiène" could not be performed without the principal sur, and the only opera which could be substituted for it was that good old battle horse, "Carmen." The fatal placards were hung upon the outer walls to announce the change, and the corridors were blue with expressions of discontent. The audience was not large, content. The audience was not large, but it was cordial in its demonstrations of approval. Mme. Seygard was the Carmen and repeated an impersonation which has graphic merit, but suffers from want of tonal plenitude. Mr. Salignac's Don Jose does not increase in artistic stature as the

does not increase in artistic stature as the years go by.

Miss Marylli was a tolerable Micaela. and Mr. Journet was a toreador who certainly would not have done damage to any bull except a hornless one of very tender age. Mr. Gilibert was amusing as the comic gypsy, and familiar representations of the other minor personages were exhibited. Mr. Mancinelli conducted with discretion.

NEW QUEEN OF VENUS COMES OUT. Her Predecessor Had Something or Other

and the Show Didn't Go Well. Eleanor Kent has succeeded Mai de Villiers as The Queen of Venus in "The Silver liers as The Queen of Venus in "The Silver Slipper." There was something amiss with the Queen in the show on Tuesday night and part of the first act was cut out. The press agent said Mme. de Villiers had a fainting spell. Miss Kent played the rôle at the matinée vesterday and did it well. She had been rehearsing for two weeks, but Mme. de Villiers apparently didn't know it.

Aubrey Boucleault to Have a Benefit.

The management of the Princess Theatre announced last night that a special performannounced ast fight that a special performance will be given Monday afternoon for the benefit of Aubrey Boucicault, who made the English version of "Heidelberg" and is taking the principal part in it. Many of the seats have already been taken by friends of Mr. Boucicault in the theatrical profession.

Sousa Sails on a European Tour. Sousa and his band sailed for Europe resterday on the St. Louis. They will appear before King Edward, President Loubet and the German Emperor. The soloist at the European concerts will be Estelle Liebling, the soprano. Sousa and his band will be gone four months.

Niebelungen Trilogy Begins Jan. 18. It was decided yesterday to give the first opera of the Niebelungen Ring on Jan. 15 at the Metropolitan Opera House.
"Rheingold" will be sung and the three other operas of the trilogy will follow.
There will be only one programme of the trilogy the execurilogy this season.

Rush on to the Theatres To-day.

All the theatres but two have matinees to-day. Christmas is a good day for the playhouses. Many of the Broadway the-atres were sold out last night for both the afternoon and evening performances to-

GOT ENVELOPES FROM MAYOR. Scrub Women Thought They Were Bounced.

but Found 85 Gifts. To each of the scrub women, hall men and the like in the City Hall Mayor Low Indignantly he rejects the profesred gave yesterday a present of \$5. Accompanying each gift was a note wishing the recipient a merry Christmas.

Soon after Mr. Low had instructed one of the clerks of his office to address an envelope, enclosing a five-dollar bill, to each of the workers, a facetious member of the Mayor's staff went among the attendants, whispering in ominous tones that they were to be "fired."

noon, all right," he insinuated. After they had received this intelligence one after another, they made their way to Janitor Keese and demanded to

way to same reese and demanded to know what the complaint was against them. He told them he knew nothing about the matter, and that the report was probably groundless.

But when about 5 o'clock in the after-noon Matthew Dobbins, the Mayor's con-fidential messenger, strode down the cor-ridor, and began distributing appellorer ridor and began distributing envelopes there was consternation. For a few mo-ments there was an approach to hysterics, but when one of the scrub women, more courageous or more philosophical than the rest, opened her envelope and waved a five-dollar bill the emotions took on

A \$10,000 CHRISTMAS GIFT. Henry Phipps's Check to the Educational Alliance of New York.

LAKEWOOD, N. J., Dec. 24.-Mr. Isidor Straus of New York, who is stopping at the Lakewood Hotel, received a letter to-night from Mr. Henry Phipps, Mr. Carnegie's former partner in the firm of Carnegie, Phipps & Co., enclosing a check for \$10,000 as a Christmas present for the Educational Alliance of New York, of which Mr. Straus is president. Mr. Phipps is travelling in India. Mr. Straus cabled to him at Agra, thanking the ironmaster for his gift and extending hearty wishes for a merry Christmas.

for a merry Christmas.

Mr. Phipps, on reading last year's annual report of the Educational Alliance, observed that \$2,500 per year would defray the expense of a legal aid bureau which was very much needed. He immediately sent his check for that amount and said that would enable the experiment to be made for the first year.

The annual meeting of the Educational Alliance will be held at its building at East Broadway and Jefferson street on Sunday evening, Jan. 4, at which in addition to the report of the Executive Committee addresses are expected from Dr. Maxwell, Superintendent of Public Schools, and by Gen. Joe Wheeler.

CHRISTMAS MAIL DESTROYED.

A Chicago Pouch, Thrown Out at Binghamton, Falls Under the Wheels of the Cars. BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 24.-A large quantity of Christmas mail from Chicago, bound for New York, was ground to pieces beneath the wheels of an Erie express

beneath the wheels of an Erie express train to-day. The mail car was piled full of pouches, and as it passed through Lestershire, a suburb of this city, one of the bags was to be hurled on to the platform, the train not stopping.

As the bag was thrown out the big Chicago pouch fell outward beneath the wheels of the flying mail car and was cut into ribbons. Much of the contents was ground to a pulp, even the addresses being obliterated. Valuables were found strewn along the track, but there was nothbeing obliterated. Valuables were found strewn along the track, but there was nothing that would indicate the name of the sender or the person to whom they were addressed. Postmaster Hill notified the Department in Washington, and will hold the remains of the pouch for identification, but there will be many presents bound for New York and Eastern points which will never reach thek destination.

TURKEY FOR EVERY ONE TO-DAY

HE BIRD IS HIGH PRICED, BUT NONE NEED GO HUNGRY.

Meals and Entertainments and Christma Gifts as Pientiful as Ever if Not More So-Services in all Churches-Arch bishop Farley to Celebrate Mass.

Christmas services will be held in many of he large churches to-day. There will be ntertainments and celebrations without number in institutions, and hundreds of special dinners and distributions of gifts among the poor in all parts of the city. The high price of turkey has been without apparent discouraging effect on the efforts o give the city's unfortunate their annua square meal and everything indicates that as much turkey and cranberry sauce will be consumed by the needy to-day, free of

cost, as in former years. The most notable church service of the day will be the solemn pontifical mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral, at 11 o'clock. Archbishop Farley will be the celebrant, this being one of the five occasions on which he has received special permission by the Pope to officiate as Archbishop prior to his actual investiture. The Archbishop will be assisted by Father Lavelle as assistant priest and by Fathers William Daly and T. F. Murphy as deacons. The master of ceremonies will be Father James Lewis. Other services will be solemn high mass at 4:30 A. M. and pontifical vespers at 4 o'clock. At all the services the musical

programme will be elaborate. Mass will be celebrated in the other large Catholic churches, and the Catholic Procathedral in Brooklyn will be opened by Bishop McDonnell. There will be specia musical services in many of the Protestant

The Salvation Army will make a day of in the Grand Central Palace. At 10 A. M. the Army will begin the distribution of 22,500 basket dinners; at 6 P. M. a dinner will be served to 2,500 poor people and at

will be served to 2,300 poor people and at 7:30 there will be a musical and stereopticon entertainment. Incidentally, the Army will distribute from various stations throughout the city clothing and toys to about 3,000 children.

Congressman-elect Sullivan's annual dinner to the residents of the Sixth Assembly district will be, as usual, one of the big events. It will be held in the rooms of the Sullivan Association. 207 Bowery. There events. It will be held in the rooms of the sullivan Association, 207 Bowery. There have been provided for the feast 5,000 pounds of poultry, 2,500 mince pies, ten barrels of potato salad and plenty of "trimmin's" as well as beer and coffee. "Big Tim" will give away to the diners 2,500 pairs of woolken scoke.

Tim" will give away to the diners 2,500 pairs of woollen socks.

Frank Tilford, following his annual custom, will feed 600 newsboys at Lyric Hall, Forty-second street and Sixth avenue. There will be music and other entertainment afterward. Mr. Tilford will also give a turkey dinner to 700 "Little Mothers" at the West Side Lyceum, Broadway and Fifty-second street. William M. Fliess will provide his yearly feast to a small army of newsboys at the Brace Memorial Lodging House in Duane street.

At the Bowery Mission there will be a breakfast and a dinner for homeless men. In the afternoon a Christmas tree entertainment will be provided for the children of the East Side.

of the East Side.

John D. Crimmins will give his customary Christmas dinner to the inmates of the Home of the Little Sisters of the Poor in East Seventieth street at noon, his family

Thomas E. Stillman has provided a Christmas tree for young and old at the White Rose Home, 217 East Eighty-sixh street. The Misses Mary E. and Charlotte R. Stillman will give a dinner to about 200 at the home. Bellevue Hospital there will be as

elaborate celebration. Acting Superintendent Rickard has received more than \$1.000 with which to buy gifts for the patients and has decorated three big Christmas trees, which have been put in the auditorium, where the celebration will be held. Each of the 783 patients will receive one or more presents. eive one or more presents. In Brooklyn the Christmas Tree Society will give an entertainment for poor child-ren at the Orpheum Theatre at 9:30 A. M. Creatore and Capt. Wood's sea lions will divide the honors with Santa Claus, who will

THE RICH GIVE OF THEIR STORE

distribute dolls and toys to the youngsters

Many Made Happy by the Generosity of Miss Helen Gould and Other Willianaires. YONKERS, N. Y., Dec. 24.-Miss Helen M. Gould to-day sent word to Matron Jaggers of Miss Gould's Home for Poor Boys at Kirkside in the Catskills to give the boys Christmas tree to-morrow. Miss Gould has shipped boxes of toys and candies to the home. She also gave her servants ten-dollar gold pieces. In Yonkers, John Andrus made more than eight hundred poor families happy. Far into the night Mr. Andrus had a score of express wagons and other vehicles distributing his gifts. which filled a store. Each family received a basket containing a turkey, a bag of flour

and potatoes. Miss Gould and John D. Rockefeller will make their annual yuletide visit to Tarrytown to-morrow and will distribute gold eagles among the railroad employees and Western Union messenger boys. In New Rochelle Adrian Iselin supplied nearly one hundred poor families with turkey dinners, which were given out under the direction of

Charity Commissioner Scherp.

The Iselin family, which has a large farm at New Rochelle, shipped 100 barrels of turkeys and chickens to charitable institu tions in Manhattan. The inmates of St. Eleanora's Home at Scarsdale which was built by Adrian Iselin, will be given a special dinner to-morrow. Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin, who is at Aiken, S.C., sent a check for a good round sum to the managers of the New Rochelle Day Nursery, of which she is president and on Friday the children will have a Christmas tree and receive presents

DINNER AT THE O'NEILL STORE. Clerks of an Old Established Firm Enjoy a Feast on Christmas Eve.

One thousand employees of O'Neill's big department store sat down last night to a Christmas dinner arranged for them by Manager William C. Strange. They began with a soup made of 4,000 oysters, hen cleared the platters of 500 bluefish, and then put away 1,000 pounds of Vermont turkey, four barrels of potatoes and proportionate quantities of peas and corn. Dessert consisted of mince pie and vanilla ice cream.

For ten years H. O'Neill & Co.'s em-ployees have annually had their turkey dinner in the store. This year the clerks and others have dined daily since De at the expense of the company. After to-morrow, however, the store will return o ordinary conditions and the free dinner will be discontinued until next year.

Christmas for Court Prisoners. The prisoners in the Yorkville court

prison were treated to a entertainment vesterday under the auspices of Mrs. Cora Archer of the Prison Association. Miss Agnes Sumner-Geer recited be Good for Christmas Day," and the small organ which is used on Sundays was wheeled into the prison to accompany Miss lide Varkenten, who sang, "Where Is My Wandering Boy To-night," and several other selections After the entertainment Mrs. Archer

Gov. Odell Will Spend Christmas in Albany ALBANY, Dec. 24.-Gov. Odell expects to spend Christmas at the Executive Mansion with his family. His father, brothers and sisters will be his guests.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

New York is going without its share of istletoe this year and florists think that there is no hope of getting a full supply for the crop is almost an utter failure i

for the crop is almost an utter failure in the regions where it is usually abundant. New Jersey and Delaware usually provide the bulk of the mistletoe for the New York market, and this year Jerseyites have been going to Long Island to get enough of the plant for themselves. This has made the Long Islanders angry, as the supply is not too large for their own use and there have been several encounters between them and the invading Jerseymen.

Fifth avenue was in holiday dress on Tues day afternoon. The carriages which moved slowly up and down were filled with women whose destinations were the shops, but most of them were dressed as if the opera or a reception was the magnet that attracted them. The number of victorias occupied by handsomely dressed women was a striking feature of the parade. Wrapped furs, the weather had no effect on them. Light colored hats, light colored gowns and wraps added to the festal aspect of

and wraps added to the festal aspect of the shopping crowd, which is rarely so brilliant in appearance a few days before Christmas.

The business of buying rather than the pleasure of dressing usually interests the women who go out to the shopping district in the afternoon at this time. But it happens that just before Christmas few days in recent years have been preceded by such beautiful weather as this city enjoyed on Monday and Tuesday. Every condition invited display and parade; and no city in the world could have furnished a more brilliant spectacle than that to be seen on Tuesday in Fifth avenue.

It took the glorious day to bring out such a crowd, and the shopkeepers must have been delighted at the circumstance. The greatest value of the weather was well understood by the policeman at the corner of Twenty-third street and Broadway, who answered an observation as to the

who answered an observation as to the beauty of the day by replying: "Yes, beautiful. Just the weather for

The news that the Wanamaker store is to remain on its present site and as much of the neighboring property as the enterprise needs and can acquire puts to rest the repeated rumor that the Metropolitan Opera House was to be taken for the site of the store. In spite of denials from all those who in the nature of things might be expected to know the situation, it was mpossible to put an end to the story that the owners of the Metropolitan had agreed o sell their property at the end of two years for a sum variously placed at points between \$4,000,000 and \$6,000,000.

The great advantage of buying this property is the ease of acquiring it in a block. As it is all owned by one company, there are no separate interests to be bought off or pacified at great expense. The property has greatly increased in value since it was bought by the Metropolitan Opera and Real Estate Company, but it is extremely doubtful if it is worth \$6,000,000. The building, which now is in the heart of the theatre district, will remain central for the theatre district, will remain central for many years to come.

With the contemplated alterations which

present house will serve its purpose well for some years to come. The theatres likely to give way soon to business build-ings are those that lie below Thirty-fourth street, where the returns on commercial skyscrapers are much higher than on

A clergyman of high place in his church was walking through the shopping crush of West Twenty-third street yesterday with a companion. In front of one of the stores they were thrown out of step for a moment while a woman crossed their path from the carriage to the shop entrance. Her men were in striking livery and every detail of her equipage was in accord with the latest decree of fashion. Seeing the kindly face of the clergyman

staring at her with unconcealed curiosity the woman turned a half-defiant glance at him and swept on.
"Did you notice her?" asked the clergy-man's companion. "She used to be a flower

girl once."
"Poor woman," said the minister. "How very sad!" The intimate friends of a certain wom

known in a certain set in society for the shrewdness which tompers the generosity of a very kind heart, will receive from her o-day a little slip of paper beginning I. O. U. and ending with her signature. In the corner of the slip is the stereotyped wish for "A Merry Christmas" and between the promissory letters and the signature on each is a description of the Christmas gift the sender intends to make to the receiver.

The woman who sends her Christmas presents in this way awoke long ago to the fact that before that day of days trifles suitable for gifts are an inordinate price and after Christmas Day they come down with a rush to bargain figures. She likes bargains and she hates to think that just because it is Christmas time the people in the shops should make what she con-

ders an unfair profit out of her. She also dislikes crowds. So she decides before Christmas Day what she wishes to give to each of her friends and sends an I. O. U. for that par-ticular article. Then, after Christmas, when the bargain time comes around and here is no crowd in the stores to pus and jostle the purchaser, she goes shoppin at her leisure and buys the articles she h at her leisure and buys the articles she has promised. It is less trouble to the woman; she saves money by it; her friends seem just as pleased with this way of receiving their presents and they admire her shrewdness as well.

For some reason which is a puzzle to the Post Office clerks the crop of letters to Santa Claus mailed in New York this year has been larger than usual. There is always such a crop, and some of the appeals they convey are calculated to make the flintiest-hearted clerk in the building lay out his salary in toys and call for a sleigh and a reindeer team to play Christmas

saint to junior New York. Only the messages sent on postal cards can be read, for the letters, by the stern rule of the Department, which in its official capacity knows no sentiment, are forwarded to the Dead Letter Office at Washington with the other mail which cannot be delivered, and there are dealt with. But the cards are touching enough. Here are one or two a Sun man saw the other day: or two a Sun man saw the other day:
Santa Claus, Manhattan, Care of Postmaster:
DEAR SANTA: Father out of work, mother
getting odd days' work washing when she
can get it, and five children, oldest 13 years,
it looks blue for Christmas. Please remember us and send us some toys and something
to wear, or something to keep us warm, or
something and make us happy.

The address was a Harlow tenesure.

The address was a Harlem tenement. Several postal clerks were seen to copy it. This was addressed to Santa Claus, "in

DEAU SANTA: Please send me a coat four winter and a pare of shoes, for I have nothing to wear, four winter. Please send me hat, four I have no farther. There was an element of piety in the address of this card, to "Santa Claus, Dreamland, Amen." It said:

land, Amen." It said:

DEAR SANTA CLAUS: I have a sick papa.
Please send me a doll that can open and shut its eyes.

JULIA S——.

One small correspondent evidently had some glimmer of doubt as to her letter (sent to Washington unopened) reaching its destination. It was addressed to Santa Claus, at "No. 0, No street, No Place, in the Land of Nowhere," and on the back was this: DEAR MR. St. Nicholas: I hope this letter will reach you saftely. My big sister's hus-band told me this address.

Who Read "The Sun"? Persons with money and brains to spend it wisely. Therefore, if you've anything to sell that's worth buying, advertise it in THE SUN.—Adv

SCHOOLBOY ESSAYS ON XMAS.

ONE BY AN ITALIAN, ONE BY A CHINESE, ONE BY A HEBREW.

The Chinese, Chin Chung, Is President of His Public School Class of Grandsons of Many Lands and Is a Devout Methodist -- All Clever, Some Illustrated

A few days ago Miss A. M. Walker, teacher in the sixth grade of the public school at 8 Henry street, told her pupils, whose ages average 14 years, and not one of whom is of American parentage, to write, each, a composition, expressing in his own words what he remembered of some stanzas of Longfellow's "Christmas Carol," which she had read to them.

An Italian, Albert F. Gaimari, wrote It was one cold Christmas day as I gazed upon the landscape of houses covered with a mantle of white, that the old familiar bell of a neighboring church reached my ear. Every clang of the tongue seemed to send out news of gladness and peace throughout the whole universe. Then, as if by a combined effort, all the bells of all the church's seemed ringing out in one tone: Peace on earth, good will to men.

But how can there be peace on earth when this world is full of hatred and wrong? But, ah! there is the Eternal Father who watches us and guides us; and when the world is at peace with each other there can be peace on earth and good will to men.

The box illustrated his composition with It was one cold Christmas day as I gazed

The boy illustrated his composition with a pen-and-ink drawing of a snow-covered church. A border of holly surrounded the picture, and the penmanship was near as could be

Another paper also was illustrated and the handwriting was no less neat though penned by a Chinese boy, Chin Chung, who has been in school only three years and in the country only two years longer. Chin Chung wrote:

the country only two years longer. Chin Ching wrote:

Year in, year out, the cheerful ringing of the old bells, bursting on our ears in all directions, is perfectly familiar to each of us. Awaking on a very bright, snowy morning in December I heard the bells ringing with so wild and sweet a sound as though they said:

"Peace on earth, good will to men!"

Nay, as the hearts of men are so wicked and hard, through which the faithful doctrines could not penetrate. I thought to myself that there would be no peace on earth. Having atopped for a few moments thinking over and over again, at last I looked up to the Creator, who is so wide-awake, watching our daily actions.

Therefore I believe that God will separate us into two classes. Undoubtfully, those that are wicked in this world will dwell in a place burning with fre; and those that do their duties will surely be accepted to abide with Almighty God in His eternal kingdom, which floweth with milk and honey, and consequently those few words would become true. Brethren, this moment is the time for you and me to take our choice. Therefore I earnestly hope that we will all choose the right way; that is the way by which we will all go to see God in His manison. Doing this we should pray God to guide us.

When Miss Walker read Chin Chung's paper she was surprised at its religious tone. Inquiry showel that the boy is a Methodist and a devout Christian.

paper she was surprised at its religious tone. Inquiry showed that the boy is a Methodist and a devout Christian.

Young Chung is the only Chinese in the class of thirty-three, in which there is not a single son of American parents. His fellow pupils are mostly Italians and Russian Jews, but Chung is on the best of terms with them and is their acknowledged leader, holding the post of president of the class. He is also the brightest of any of them and his sch-larship is so good that the teachers are thinking seriously of allowing him to skip a grade and graduate in June next.

in June next.

The best composition of any in the class in Miss Walker's judgment was one by Samuel Sachs, a fourteen-year-old Hebrew. Samuel decorated his effort with a drawing of a church steeple. The composition June next.

read:

"Twas on the bright and crisp morning of Christmas Day. I was awakened from my peace all slumber by the peal of the Christman bells bursting upon my ears. How grand and sweet was the sound! At intervals they rang out loud and clear: then they subsided into soft low tones that were scarcely audible. It appeared to me as though they were saying, with each mig'ty clang, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

Then in my reverie, I thought that every bell was uttering with its iron tongue, the same familiar words. I lost all hope of this being true. Still the bells continued their ringing, but it is time they conveyed different words to me. They seemed to say, "The wrong shall not rule; but the right shall triumph; and in the end the words of that old carol will be true!"

Miss Walker says that she received sev-

ere printed. The boys, she says, are e brighter than those she taught in a school uptown whose parents were more prosper

ous Americans SUPT. STEWART'S CHRISTMAS. What Happened After He Got a Fake Emergency Call to the Building Bureau. Building Superintendent Perez M. Stewart received a handsome Christmas present

vesterday ahead of time from all the ataches of the Manhattan Bureau of Buildings, who wanted to let him know officially how they liked him as a bureau chief. The present was a gold hunting case watch and a double chain with a diamond cluster horseshoe locket and a gold handled penknife attached. The watch was adorned with Mr. Stewart's monogram and inscribed with the date. The presentation was made soon after the full corps of inspectors, nessengers and clerks had assembled at

headquarters. They got the superin-tendent away from his family by a fake emergency corps hurry call, and received him with three rousing cheers when he arrived in the assembly room. The presentation was made by John O'Connor, senior inspector, who told Mr. Stewart that the timepiece was given by all hands as a token of the appreciation which each felt for the courtesy and square

all hands as a token of the appreciation which each felt for the courtesy and square treatment received from him since he had become executive head of the building bureau. There were more cheers as he handed the watch to the superintendent, and they were so hearty that the greeting brought tears to Mr. Stewart's eyes.

"I confess," he said, "that this is the first time I have been 'rattled' since I have been in the department."

He retired modestly and a number of speakers, availing themselves of the license of the Christmas season, took turns in saying nice thi gs nicely to his face about the chief. Assistant Corporation Counsel Matthew C. Fleming, his legal adviser, and Prof. Ira H. Wilson of Columbia, who is associated in test work for the bureau, praised the superintendent for setting a high standard of service for his corps.

Assistant Superintendent John L. Jordan, Chief Engineer Rudolph P. Miller, Patrick J. Andrews, chief of the plumbing division; David Canavan, chief of the unsafe building emergency corps, and William H. Class, chief clerk and a veteran of thirty-eight years' service in the bureau, also said complimentary things and then Mr. Stewart took a second try at talking to his staff.

"I thank you from the bottom of my heart for this unexpected evidence of friendship," he said, and I want to say that I am proud of all the men and of all the girls, too, in the bureau. I thank you not alone for this watch, but for the loyal cooperation given by each one to me."

He whispered to Inspector O'Connor

cooperation given by each one to me."

He whispered to Inspector O'Connor and the latter's stentorian voice range "Mr. Stewart says all hands are to have a half holiday."

Then with Christmas wishes and a final colley of three cheers and a tiger, the gathering broke up. The Turkey Hangs High.

Turkeys were selling at 22 cents a pound wholesale yesterday, and were scarce at any price. A high Thanksgiving market is usually followed by a lower Christmas market, but this year conditions were reversed. The record price of turkeys was made in 1869, when they sold as high as 24 cents a pound wholesale. This year's price is the highest since that time.

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SIEGEL COPERC.

Merry Christmas!

ALLOW us to wish you, our friends and the general public, a very Merry Christmas.

The year about closing shows the largest business of our experience, and this applies to all branches of our business. The Holiday business just terminated shows such remarkable increases that we are glad and grateful to acknowledge our thanks in this public manner.

THANKS to you, the public, for your ardent support and lively indorsement of our endeavors.

THANKS to you, our thousands of Employes, for you loyalty, faithfulness and untiring efforts.

There were some shortcomings, of course, for we are only human. Excuse us if we failed in any respect, and do us a

FAVOR by allowing us to rectify. We have still higher ideals—better things to be

Your enthusiastic commendation and earnest recog-

nition of our endeavors give much encouragement. Thank you again. A Merry Christmas to all!

HERMAN PERLET A VICTIM.

The Musician Gets a Fine Load of Junk for a Christmas Gift.

Herman Perlet, the musical director of the American School of Opera and conductor of the Casino Theatre orchestra, recently moved into a small apartment at 144 West Forty-ninth street, while his daughter was in California and his wife, known on the operatic stage as Bella Thorne, was preparing to go to Europe.

As a result he had to sell his grand piano.

Yes terday morning a piano truck drove up to the Perlet residence and the driver said he had a piano for Mr. Perlet. A big piano box was then hoisted into the flat. On the top of it was a card with this in-

Compliments of the American School of Opera and "The Chinese Honeymoon" Com-pany.

Mr. Perlet opened the box. In it he found a rare combination of barrel heads, paving blocks, old shees, dirt and bottles.

AMUSEMENTS. VISIT PROCTOR'S TO-DAY. 25, 50c. Reserved Svery att. & Live. Full Orca. 23d St. Continuous Vandeville. D. lan & Lenharr. Taking Chances, Press Eddridge. Cook & Clinton, Pongs & Leo. 25 Acis Open 10:30 A. M. To-day (X.mas) at 23d St. THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE. William Branwell, Minnie Stireman, All Favorite Stock, Vaudeville.

rices 25.50,75.1.00. Mats. Wed & Sat. 2; Evgs. 8:10. BROADWAY Theatre, 41st St. and Broadway.
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Sat. Art., Dec. 27, at 2:—AIDA. Eames, Homet,
Marylli: De Marchi, Campanari, Ed. de Reaste.
Conductor, Mancinelli.
Sat. Evg., Dec. 27, at 8, at Pop. Prices.—OTELLO.
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Sat. Evg., Dec. 28, at 8:30.—Grand Popular
Concert. In addition to a miscellaneous coacert. Rossini's

bells bursting upon my ears. How grand and sweet was the sound! At intervals they rang out loud and clear; then they subsided into soft low tones that were scarcely audible. It appeared to me as though they were saying, with each mighty clang, "Peace on earth, good will to men."

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Miss Walker says that she received several compositions nearly as good as those here printed. The boys, she says, are even the same familiar. The boys, she says, are even the says are even the same familiar words. I lost all the same familiar words. I lost all those of this tringing, but it is time they conveyed different words to me. They seemed to say. "The largest production in America, the says, are even the says are even the says are even the same familiar words. I lost all those of this words are says to say the says that she received several compositions nearly as good as those there printed. The boys, she says, are even the same familiar words. I lost all the every say that the every say that the says that the every say that the every say that the says that the every say. The largest production in America, we say the says that the says t

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